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Gov. Heineman Announces Nebraska Virtual Library Launch

(Lincoln, Neb.) Gov. Dave Heineman today was joined by Dr. Roger Breed, Nebraska Commissioner of Education, and Rod Bates, General Manager of Nebraska Educational Telecommunications to announce the Nebraska Virtual Library system is now online and ready to use. The launch of the new online learning library offers more than 20,000 digital resources for Nebraska's teachers and students as a free statewide resource.

"This is a significant step forward for the future of education in Nebraska," said Gov. Heineman. "The Virtual Library will provide Nebraska teachers and students with enhanced digital resources to enrich teaching and learning."

The Nebraska Virtual Library contains multi-media resources including audio, video and interactive components continually updated from the Library of Congress, National Archives, PBS NewsHour, NOVA, American Experience, Electric Company, and SciGirls. Access to the virtual library can be found at www.net.pbslearningmedia.org.

This new site is part of a larger statewide educational initiative announced last August by Governor Heineman. The Nebraska Virtual Partnership, formed to serve learners from preschool through high school and emphasize science, technology, engineering and math, includes leaders from the Nebraska Department of Education, UNL Independent Study High School, Educational Service Unit Coordinating Council and NET.

"Nebraska educators at all levels are now charged with bringing a rigorous and rich curriculum into their classrooms every day," said Dr. Roger Breed, Nebraska Commissioner of Education. "The NET Virtual Learning Library blends content with memorable visual images that supports classrooms that are standards-based and engaging."

"We're committed to expanding the state's educational impact through the power of digital technology," said Rod Bates, NET General Manager.

"A major goal is to provide educators with strategies, tools and professional development resources needed to fully utilize digital learning," said NET Assistant General Manager of Education Gary Targoff. "Learning objects are aligned to core standards and include lesson plans and teacher resources. Teachers can also set up class accounts for student access."